

LIPID-NUCLEIC ACID PARTICLES PREPARED VIA A HYDROPHOBIC LIPID-NUCLEIC ACID COMPLEX INTERMEDIATE AND USE FOR GENE TRANSFER

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Novel lipid-nucleic acid particulate complexes which are useful for *in vitro* or *in vivo* gene transfer are described. The particles can be formed using either detergent dialysis methods or methods which utilize organic solvents. Upon removal of a solubilizing component (*i.e.*, detergent or an organic solvent) the lipid-nucleic acid complexes form particles wherein the nucleic acid is serum-stable and is protected from degradation. The particles thus formed have access to extravascular sites and target cell populations and are suitable for the therapeutic delivery of nucleic acids.

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